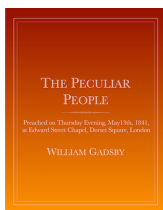


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

June 4th, 2017

“...I live by the faith of the Son
of God, who loved me, and
gave HIMSELF for me”

(GALATIANS 2:20)



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June 4th, 2017

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

**As the Lord enables you, please continue to pray
for our brethren Pat Maddux, and Ray & Betty McMahon**

Happy Birthday!

Marcella Borders-5th, Darren Wolf-8th

This evening's podcast will be from PASTOR FRED EVANS

PSALM 104 — THE GREATNESS OF OUR GOD

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

***Our featured sermon is made available every Sunday at 6:00 PM**

ALL THINGS THAT EVER I DID

“COME, SEE A MAN, WHICH TOLD ME ALL THINGS THAT EVER I DID:

IS NOT THIS THE CHRIST?”

(JOHN 4:29)

When the Lord of glory beheld the eyes of the woman of Samaria, in that moment when He said *“I that speak unto thee AM HE,”* (JOHN 4:26) she knew at once that He was the promised Messiah sent into the world to save sinners. And blessed be His name, He revealed to her that she was one of them! [Read — 1 TIMOTHY 1:15]

She had been expecting the Messiah, the Christ, the One who would come and tell all things, the One who would fulfill the prophecies of the Old Testament; indeed He was the promised Seed who would crush that old serpent's head, as the LORD had promised to Adam and Eve in the garden (GENESIS 3:15).

In the very moment our Lord said *“I that speak unto thee AM”* He revealed not merely her sin in transgressing the Law of God, but further, in the light of His revealed beauty; indeed in the light of His perfect righteousness, He showed her that the things she once trusted in to

save herself, were nothing but *filthy rags* (ISAIAH 64:6). In that moment, the Lord revealed her two great evils. First, that she had up to that moment forsaken Him, *the fountain of living waters*, the author and finisher of everlasting life. And second, of trying to reconcile herself to a holy God with the *broken cistern* of her ruined life (JEREMIAH 2:13). Indeed *ALL THINGS* that ever she *DID* to try and save herself, was shown to her in the light of CHRIST, for what it was—EVIL! After that quickening encounter with the Lord she could say with God's beloved people, "*I worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in my flesh.*" Indeed, the believing sinner has no saving confidence in anything she has done, or will do.

"Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God." **ISAIAH 52:9-10**

Indeed, this woman of Samaria was made to see "*the salvation of our God*" (ISAIAH 52:10). She was made to see that in Christ, she was no longer the adulterer that we all are by nature—but now, by the *blood* and *righteousness* of Christ, she was made to see that she was an Israelite indeed in whom is no guile. Being found of Christ and in Christ, she is (as all of God's people will be found on that day) *without spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing* (EPHESIANS 5:27). Indeed, found holy and blameless in Christ, He ever shows us, that *ALL THINGS THAT EVER WE DID*—that we do it no more. Beloved, by God's grace you no longer do what you once did—forsake Him and not believe Him. In fact, a believer is unable to *not believe* the Lord Jesus Christ. Go ahead, try to not believe Him. You can't do it, can you? Truly the gifts and calling of God are without repentance! (ROMANS 11:29, Read EPHESIANS 2:8)

Dear reader, have you repented of your sin of unbelief? Our Lord declares "*If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.*" May the Lord give you grace to cry out "*Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief*" (MARK 9:23-24). Oh for grace to love Him all the more, indeed to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, I beg for those readers that are still in "*the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.*"; set them free from trusting in themselves for Christ's sake, and give them grace to trust the finished saving work of your Son's *blood* and *righteousness*. Amen! (ACTS 8:23)

HE LOVED ME, AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME

"I AM CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST: NEVERTHELESS I LIVE; YET NOT I, BUT CHRIST LIVETH IN ME: AND THE LIFE WHICH I NOW LIVE IN THE FLESH I LIVE BY THE FAITH OF THE SON OF GOD, WHO LOVED ME, AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME."
(GALATIANS 2:20)

When the great apostle of the Gentiles was brought, by the special power of God's grace, to know something of this for himself, this is one part of his song: "*He loved me, and gave himself for me.*" Now Christ died for the sins of the elect, and it is only those who have grace given them to realize and enjoy this love who can truly sing this glorious song. But some will say he loved all men, and gave himself for all men. If that be true, the damned in hell might rise up and say, "He loved me, and gave himself for me, and yet we are damned!" Does not such a thought as this horrify the soul, after having been brought to see the wonders of the love of Christ? But this love was never fixed upon devils and damned spirits. It was locked up in the heart of God the Father, and God the Son, and was made manifest through the atonement of God's dear Son; and the blessed Spirit, as the Great Teacher, comes down from heaven, for the special purpose of teaching rebels this love,—to lead poor vile wretches to know something of the nature of this great, this amazing, this peculiar love. Well, then, herein is love; not that we loved God, but that he loved us! Does this love suit you? Perhaps you do not believe you want so much of it, but think you can manage a little for yourselves. Well; the Lord knows, after fifty years' experience, I have been brought to have all my creature doings rooted up, and burnt before my eyes; and I have stood and looked on, like a ruined fool. I have nothing to stand on in self but emptiness before God; and what is not empty is worse, for it is guilt and confusion. I would not stand upon anything short of Christ for ten thousand worlds; now that all my guilty pretenses are made manifest by the love of Christ, brought into my conscience by the blessed power of the Holy Spirit. It sets my soul solemnly going out after God, and brings me to wonder at and adore the riches of God's peculiar love, to such a poor, vile, and wretched sinner. [Amen!]

An excerpt from "*The Peculiar People*" available for download at bookshelf.sovereigngrace.us

PASTOR **WILLIAM GADSBY** (1773–1844)